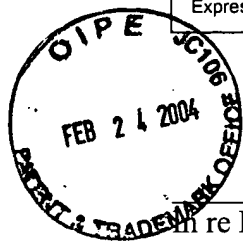


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Docket No.: 02309/000K030-US0
(PATENT)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Satoshi Mizutani et al.

Application No.: 09/992,799

Confirmation No.:

Filed: November 14, 2001

Art Unit: 1772

For: ABSORBENT ARTICLE

Examiner: C. A. Simone

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed after the mailing date of a Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, whichever occurred first, but on or before payment of the Issue Fee (37 CFR 1.97(d)). Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

03/02/2004 HMEKONEN 00000026 09992799

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A copy of each document on the PTO/SB/08 is attached.

Our check in the amount of \$180.00 covering the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency of up to \$300.00 or credit any excess in this fee to Deposit Account No. 04-0100.

Dated: February 24, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Alphonso A. Collins

Registration No.: 43,559

DARBY & DARBY P.C.

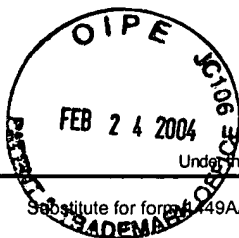
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(212) 527-7700

(212) 753-6237 (Fax)

Attorneys/Agents For Applicant



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	09/992,799
				Filing Date	November 14, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Satoshi Mizutani
				Art Unit	1772
				Examiner Name	C. A. Simone
				Attorney Docket Number	02309/000K030-USO
Sheet	1	of	1		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	BA	EP 0 391 727 B2	10-10-1990	McNeil-PPC, Inc.		

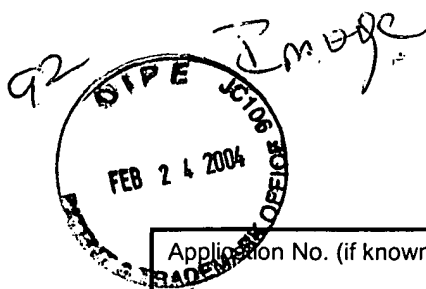
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	CA	Australian Patent Office Search Report dated 08-21-2003	

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¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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Application No. (if known): 09/992,799

Attorney Docket No.: 02309/000K030-US0

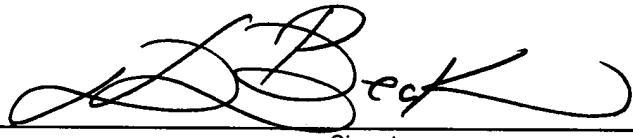
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Information Disclosure Statement (2 pages);
IDS (Citation) by Applicant (1 page);
One (1) reference and Australian Search Report; and
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